Quiz One - Chapter 01 - Political Thinking and Political Culture: Becoming a Responsible Citizen  
  
1. Which of the following characterizes journalist Walter Lippmann's views on democracy?   
A. He felt that well-funded private interest groups and lobbyists had taken the true majoritarian power of democracy away from the voting public.  
B. He felt that modern democratic government had become an unhealthy, pluralistic enterprise.  
C. He believed that among forms of government, only democracy could provide a citizen with the ability to be a "progressive being."  
D. He worried that most citizens are too uninformed to play the role democracy assigns them.  
E. None of these answers is correct.  
  
2. John Stuart Mill believed that any form of government should be judged on its ability to   
A. offer the individual a "plethora of policy options" in the democratic process.  
B. transfer power peacefully from one set of governing officials to the next.  
C. provide social services for its citizenry.  
D. maintain peace and order in the territory over which it has control.  
E. promote the individual as "a progressive being."  
  
3. What type of government suppresses individuality, forcing people to think and act in prescribed ways or risk punishment?   
A. communistic  
B. socialistic  
C. authoritarian  
D. egalitarian  
E. republican  
  
4. Compared to two decades ago, contemporary Americans are, on average,   
A. far better informed about political affairs.  
B. at about the same level of being informed about political affairs.  
C. getting most of their news from traditional media sources such as newspapers.  
D. much more knowledgeable about the functioning of America's political institutions.  
E. paying more attention to news sources that have an obvious ideological bias.  
  
5. Research suggests which of the following is primarily to blame for misinformation spreading easily?   
A. lack of exposure to other sources of information  
B. a failure of by the news to cover both sides of a story equally  
C. a growing disinterest in seeking out news items  
D. the growing public gap in access to more advanced forms of media transmission, such as the Internet  
E. the increasing political polarization of elected politicians  
  
6. In a survey of college students, the Intercollegiate Studies Association found that the best predictor of a student's later participation in the nation's civic and political life is   
A. a college degree.  
B. a solid understanding of public affairs.  
C. participation in student government.  
D. participation in Greek life.  
E. attending a school with a residential campus versus a "commuter" campus.  
  
7. Which of the following is NOT one of the core values of American political culture?   
A. individualism  
B. equality  
C. cooperation  
D. liberty  
E. self-government  
  
8. Which one of the following is NOT true of cultural or political beliefs in America?   
A. America's origins as a wilderness society led to the belief that government is responsible for providing material assistance to its citizens.  
B. Americans place a greater emphasis than Europeans on personal advancement through education.  
C. Americans have traditionally favored a free-market economy.  
D. America has a strong individualistic culture.  
E. America's individualistic culture has not proven to be an absolute barrier to government assistance programs.  
  
9. One example of an authoritarian regime is   
A. Great Britain.  
B. France.  
C. the United States.  
D. China.  
E. Canada.  
  
10. According to the Declaration of Independence, governments get their "just powers" from   
A. "God Almighty."  
B. "the consent of the governed."  
C. "the various factions."  
D. "the teachings of Jesus Christ."  
E. "the benevolence of a just king."  
  
11. The process by which a society settles its conflicts and allocates the resulting benefits and costs is called   
A. politics.  
B. government.  
C. elitism.  
D. socialism.  
E. communism.  
  
12. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is the ability of persons, groups, or institutions to influence political developments.   
A. Apathy  
B. Politics  
C. Power  
D. Liberty  
E. Political culture  
  
  
13. In an oligarchy,   
A. the state is run by corporate interests and companies instead of individuals.  
B. control rests with a small group of popularly elected individuals.  
C. control rests with a single individual, such as a dictator.  
D. control rests with a small group, such as military officers or a few wealthy families.  
E. the state controls all aspects of individuals' lives, including family relations and the practice of religion.  
  
14. Which of the following has democracy come to mean in practice?   
A. pluralistic government through the combination of popularly elected representatives and the influence of interest groups  
B. oligarchic government through a legislature chosen through popular election  
C. elitist control through interest group politics  
D. pluralism through the election of representatives and the influence of corporate interests  
E. majority rule through the free and open election of representatives  
  
15. The United States has certain rules in place to keep politics within peaceful bounds. These rules include all of the following EXCEPT   
A. autocracy.  
B. democracy.  
C. constitutionalism.  
D. free markets.  
E. None of these answers is correct.  
  
16. The Bill of Rights   
A. reduced the restrictiveness of constitutionalism.  
B. enhanced the powers of the executive.  
C. further checked the power of the majority.  
D. enhanced the majoritarian nature of government.  
E. restricted the power of corporate influence in the government.  
  
17. In a constitutional system,   
A. there are no restrictions on the lawful uses of power, as long as this power is obtained by majority rule.  
B. there are lawful restrictions on a government's power.  
C. the economy is based on the free enterprise system.  
D. officials govern according to the traditions established by their predecessors.  
E. all citizens have absolute free speech rights.  
  
18. What new policy was established by the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark Gideon v. Wainwright ruling?   
A. the right to trial by jury  
B. the need to charge an arrested suspect with a specific crime within 24 hours of arrest  
C. the requirement that police read a suspect his rights before or during arrest  
D. government provision of free legal counsel to the accused if they are too poor to hire a lawyer  
E. the practice of allowing a suspect out on bail until the time of the trial  
  
  
  
19. Roughly two-thirds of all lobbyists in the nation's capital represent   
A. activist organizations.  
B. labor unions.  
C. business firms.  
D. foreign-based political action groups.  
E. nonprofit organizations.  
  
20. Pluralism contends that, on most issues,   
A. corporate elites have more control over economic policy than do "the politicians in the visible government."  
B. the will of the majority of the voting public determines government policy.  
C. it is the preferences of special interests that largely determine what government does.  
D. true authority lies with the elected politicians, and not with the public that put them in office.  
E. the diverse nature of the citizenry enhances the democratic process in policymaking.